REMARKS

Please enter this preliminary amendment in the subject patent application prior to examination.

In the parent application, there seemed to be some confusion between Applicants' profiling of the **bore** and what the Nolte reference actually discloses. The Examiner is asked to carefully consider the fact that the Nolte reference discloses the profiling of the connecting rod **end,** not the bore. If there is any confusion on this point, it may have come from a claim interpretation that equated machining off end material with the profiling of a bore section.

When end material is cut off from the connecting rod in the area of the bore, as in the Nolte reference, the length of the bore is actually shortened. This in turn reduces the load carrying area and to the extent the load or loading remains the same, the load per square inch increases and this increases wear and fatigue. It should also be noted that the machining off or profiling of the ends of the connecting rod in Nolte are performed for the purposes of establishing a uniform distance of separation between the side faces (what we have called the ends) of the connecting rod and the side faces of the gudgeon pin eyes. There does not appear to be any disclosure in the Nolte reference of profiling the bore as opposed to the connector rod ends for the purposes of accommodating or approximating the deflection of the pin under load.

In contrast to what is disclosed in the Nolte reference, the profiling of a bore section, as claimed for the present invention, means that that bore section remains a load bearing section due to piston pin deflection. The bore length is not reduced and this permits the total load to be balanced over a larger surface area. By profiling the ends of

the bore, as described for the two profiled sections, deflections of the piston pin can be accommodated and this reduces any load concentration at the pin and bore ends.

The 45 degree angled cuts in the Nolte reference, as illustrated in FIG. 3, result in the angled face being unable to be a load bearing portion for the piston pin. The angled section does not approximate the shape of the piston pin under load, as the present invention achieves. Accordingly, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and is respectfully requested to be passed to issue.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If, after reviewing this preliminary amendment, the Examiner feels that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

By James M. Durlacher

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